



## U.S. Customs and Border Protection

August 26, 2010

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# Community Informational

**TUCSON SECTOR BORDER PATROL --** In an effort to improve our communications within the community, we are sending you this Community Informational to inform you of significant actions taken by Border Patrol Agents in the Tucson Sector Area of Responsibility. We are excited to provide you this insight into issues that may appear in the media. We would appreciate your feedback and constructive criticism on how we can better keep you informed. If you would like to see something added, let us know. If you prefer not to receive this information, or know of someone who would like to receive it, please email us at [tcfieldcommunicationsbranch@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:tcfieldcommunicationsbranch@cbp.dhs.gov). Finally, feel free to forward this to others who may benefit from this information. The following is a rundown of activities that occurred over the past week within the Tucson Sector.

### Arrests

**(NOGALES)** Agents assigned to the Nogales Station's Interstate 19 checkpoint encountered a resident alien Saturday wanted on a felony warrant from Pinal County for a cocaine violation. The Arizona Department of Public Safety took custody of the man.

**(AJO)** Agents from the Ajo Station arrested a Sureno 13 gang member Friday, illegally present in the U.S. and previously convicted on a concealed weapon charge. Agents found the subject's criminal history using the Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System (IAFIS). The man was held for prosecution.

Criminal aliens, including gang members and aliens with felony drug charges, are among the dangerous individuals who attempt to enter the United States illegally. Technology, such as IAFIS, helps the Border Patrol quickly identify criminals and bring them to an appropriate law enforcement resolution.

### Rescues and Recoveries

**(TUCSON)** Tucson station agents were patrolling in a remote desert area Monday when they encountered four illegal aliens; one of the individuals collapsed and lost consciousness. Others in the group told agents the man is a diabetic and had not had his medication for two days. Agents on site requested assistance from the Border Patrol Search, Trauma and Rescue (BORSTAR) team, but because of the area's remoteness and rough terrain, OAM air assets were required. BORSTAR agents carried the subject to a suitable area where he could be airlifted and transported to a local hospital.

**(CASA GRANDE)** BORSTAR agents responded Monday to an Office of Air and Marine request for assistance after they found an individual lost in the west desert area and suffering from mild dehydration. The subject said he was abandoned by his smuggler.



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**(NOGALES)** Border Patrol agents assigned to the Nogales Station encountered a vehicle accident in Rio Rico Sunday. Agents trained as EMTs treated injuries while waiting for Emergency Medical Services and the Department of Public Safety to arrive.

**(AJO)** Agents assigned to the Ajo Station located human remains Saturday while patrolling in the west desert. Agents turned the scene over to the Pima County Sheriff's Office.

**(TUCSON)** Agents assigned to the Tucson Station rescued two illegal aliens Saturday suffering from dehydration. Border Patrol agents trained as Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) treated the individuals and transported them to a hospital for further treatment.

Tucson Sector has more than 200 agents trained as emergency medical technicians and more than 3,200 agents ready to respond to emergency situations. Although agents in the Tucson Sector stand ready to provide humanitarian assistance to anyone encountered in need, the summer heat continues to be a threat to human health. Unfortunately, smugglers value profits more than the lives of the people they attempt to smuggle across the border. Individuals who fall ill are often left behind by smugglers and can become victims of the desert.

### **Significant Seizures:**

**(NOGALES)** Agents assigned to the Nogales Station discovered an abandoned vehicle Saturday containing 40 bundles of marijuana weighing approximately 960 pounds. The marijuana, valued at more than \$760,000, and vehicle were seized and held for processing.

From Oct. 1, 2009, to July 31, 2010, the Tucson Sector Border Patrol seized more than 867,500 pounds of marijuana exceeding \$694 million in value.

### **Tunnels:**

**(NOGALES)** U.S. Border Patrol agents working in cooperation with local and federal law enforcement agencies identified a new clandestine tunnel Friday under the southbound lane at the DeConcini Port of Entry.

After the weight of a passenger bus traveling south caused a collapse in the road, officers from Customs and Border Protection's Office of Field Operations responded to the scene and then contacted the Nogales Border Patrol to assess the possibility of an illicit tunnel.

Agents from Nogales Station's tunnel team, with assistance from Mexican law enforcement officers, responded and discovered an unfinished tunnel originating in Mexico, connecting to the Grand Avenue



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tunnel north of the border. No injuries or vehicle damage was reported. The tunnel will be remediated immediately.

Tunnels are an indicator of smugglers' growing desperation and an example of the lengths they will go to smuggle contraband. The effectiveness of Border Patrol agents forces smugglers underground as they seek alternative methods for passing their illicit cargo. From Oct 1, 2009 to July 31, 2010, five tunnels were identified within the Tucson Sector. During the same period last year, 20 tunnels were discovered.

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